



Our mission is to "glorify and enjoy God, love and equip His people for the work of His ministry, and make disciples of all nations."

Evangelical - Reformed - Presbyterian

Session

Jason Churchwell
Josh Garrett
Ed Grimsley
Jeff Kross
Paul McCommon
Rob Morton
Howard Reed
Hunter Stevenson
Dan Strawn
Jeff Thompson
Kevin Watson

Diaconate

Bert Barnes
Matt Cathey
Cal Garretson
Matt Monsted
Tate Morris
Silas Peed
Jack Pyles
Wes Seay

Every Member, *Ministers*
Hunter Stevenson, *Senior Pastor*
Josh Garrett, *Associate Pastor*
Mark Ballard, *Youth Director*
Bill Barnes, *Interim Children's Min Dir.*

Kathy Pye, *Church Secretary*
Monni Parrish, *Financial Dir., Pianist*
Debbie McCommon, *Preschool Dir.*
Iris Archer, *Christian Counselor &
Women's Ministry Dir.*

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THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

December 23, 2018



**NORTH MACON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA**

Please be sure to turn off all cellular devices during the worship service.
Also, please do not bring food or drinks into the sanctuary.

*Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has come and has redeemed his people!*
Luke 1:68

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Introit

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-3, 6

Pastor: Sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth!

People: **Sing to the LORD! Praise his name! Proclaim his salvation day after day!**

Pastor: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples!

People: **Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness!**

*Praise Hymn

203 - *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

*Invocation

Bill Barnes

**those who are able please stand*

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday - 9:30 am - Brunch

10:45 am - Worship

Monday - Wednesday - Office Closed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday Morning Prayer - We will not meet for prayer tomorrow morning. Monday Morning Prayer will resume on Monday, January 7, 2019.

Christmas Eve - We will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve service tomorrow at 5:00 PM. A nursery for 0-3 year olds will be provided. Also, we will take up a special offering for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund, which is used for financial assistance for the widows and orphans of PCA ministers & missionaries.

Winter Sunday School Classes - Please see page 9 for a list of the Sunday school classes, which will begin on Sunday, January 6th.

Greeters - If you would like to serve as a greeter on Sunday mornings in 2019, please e-mail Paul Kanode at pekanode@yahoo.com.

Winter Retreat - The Women's Winter Retreat is Feb. 8-10 at Callaway Gardens. You can sign up in the narthex today, or contact Iris (iris@nmpc.net) for further details.

December Drive - NMPC began the "December Drive" last month, a campaign to reduce the amount of long-term debt incurred from the construction of the new building. With a \$50,000 matching gift, every \$1.00 given to the campaign between now and Dec 31st will be matched \$0.50.

SERVICE SCHEDULES

- ◆ COMMUNION PREPARATION
January– Charles & Patricia Hughes
- ◆ COMMUNION SERVERS
January - Jason Churchwell, Rob Morton, Dan Strawn, Larry Breed,
Charles Baker, Matt Shepley
- ◆ USHERS
December - Cal Garretson, Jeff Kross, Matt Shepley, Shane Self
- ◆ GREETERS
December - Patrick & Ashley Hoye
- ◆ SOUNDBOARD OPERATOR
December - Jim Grier
- ◆ FLOWER SCHEDULE
December 23– Beth Youmans
December 30– Beth McSween
- ◆ PRAYER TEAM
Today (12/23) Charles Baker, Kevin Watson
Next Sunday (12/30) Jason Churchwell, Larry Breed
- ◆ NURSERY WORKERS
Today (12/23) Charlie & Andrei Parrish
Next Sunday (12/30) Jon & Laura Paxton
- ◆ CHILDREN’S CHURCH
Today (12/23) Dan & Holly Taylor
Next Sunday (12/30) Jason & Allison Tripp

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism, 21-22

- Q. 21. Who is the Redeemer of God’s elect?
- A. **The only Redeemer of God’s elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.**
- Q. 22. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?”
- A. **Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.**

The Westminster Shorter Catechism expresses the truths of the Bible in summary form. It was comprised at the Westminster Assembly in London (1643-1648), and it sets forth the doctrinal standards of our church and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.

*Hymn

207 - Good Christian Men Rejoice

Call to Prayer

Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Bill Barnes

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

(Please sign the friendship book, pass it down the row, and then pass it back.)

Scripture Reading

Genesis 3:15; 49:8-12; 2 Samuel 7:1-17

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.

Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you. You are a lion's cub, O Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him? The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his. He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.

After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you."

That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: "Go and tell my servant David, This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, Why have you not built me a house of cedar?

Now then, tell my servant David, This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL/WINTER QUARTER

Adult Electives (beginning Sunday, January 6th):

Walking With God Through Pain & Suffering by Tim Keller, taught by Rob Morton

Joshua, taught by Josh Garrett

The Westminster Confession of Faith, taught by Seth Peed & Hunter Stevenson

Men's Class - *A Praying Life* - Teacher: Howard Gordon, Conference Room

Ladies' Class - *The Book of Acts*, Room #115

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

We have concluded our Wednesday Night activities for 2018. We will resume on Wednesday, January 9th, 2019.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Operations—11/30/2018

2018 Receipts: \$ 820,913
2018 Expenses: \$ 721,528

Faith Promise for Missions

Collected Jan-June: \$30,700
Paid out in June: \$23,470
to support our 16 missionaries
for the first half of 2018

Needed July-Dec: \$22,175
Collected July-Nov: \$15,875
to support our 16 missionaries
for the second half of 2018

New Building as of 11/30/2018

Total Cost: \$ 4,277,912
Cash & Pledges: — 3,191,405

Projected Debt: \$ 1,086,507

Dec Drive as of 11/30/2018

Dec Drive Gifts: \$ 24,788
Dec Drive Match: + \$ 12,394

Dec Drive Total: \$ 37,182

To give electronically,
please visit our website at nmpc.net

Our Church Family:

Expecting: Kristen Daniels

Newborns: Matthew Seay, Benjamin Robinson, Bowen Monsted,
Eleanor Schnetzer, Maggie Lynn Deaton & Rachel Grace Wohlrabe

Members caring for Loved Ones: Becky Gorman (Randy); Charlie Parrish (mom); Monni Parrish (mom); Steve Smith (dad); Amelia Smith (mom); Howard Gordon (mom); Melanie Grier (mom); Mary Jane (daughter-in-law); Amy Self (dad); Pearson Kelly (mom); Joe Timberlake (Peggy); Margaret Rogers (dad)

Recovering: Brenda Crutchfield (COPD); Kathy Combs (surgery); Peggy Timberlake (surgery); Ed Grimsley (broken ankle)

Bereaved: Mary Jane Leggett (mom); Grant & Carter Shelton (dad); Kim & Austin Murray (Howard); Holly Shepley (dad); Neal Ham (mom); Charles Baker (mom); Kathy Kersey (brother); Iris Archer (sister); Myra Baker (brother); Linda Scott (Richard); Joan Youmans (brother); Martha Roddenberry (dad); Ed Voss (sister); Diane McCallum (Jimmy)

The December Drive:

Let us give thanks to God for the \$50,000 matching gift (matching \$0.50 on every dollar given, up to \$50,000). This gift helped jump start the “December Drive”, a campaign to reduce the amount of long-term debt incurred from the construction of the new building.

Pray that God would inspire many to give generously towards the “December Drive” so that we might end up borrowing as little as possible.

Our City & Country:

Pray for the peace and prosperity of Macon (Jeremiah 29:7) and of central Georgia; pray for wisdom and vision for our leaders and elected officials.

Pray for another Great Awakening in America; pray that we would be a country who honors and fears the LORD.

The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

***Hymn of Preparation**

194 - *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Prayer for Our Covenant Children

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Sermon

Just As He Promised
Luke 1:57-80

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

***Hymn of Response**

218 - *Angels From the Realms of Glory*

***Benediction**

Jude 24-25

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

***Doxology**

#731

Postlude

Visitors: Welcome! Please feel free to speak with one of the pastors or elders after the service. They will be glad to answer any questions you may have and would enjoy meeting you.

Title: *Just as He Promised*

Luke 1:57-80

Found on page 831 in your pew bible

Meditation

He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David just as he said through his holy prophets of long ago.

Luke 1:69-70

Intercession

Our Priorities:

1. A progressive commitment to *Christ*: Worshipers
Loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength
2. A progressive commitment to *Christ's Body*: Servants
Loving one another as Christ has loved us
3. A progressive commitment to *Christ's Work in the World*: Ambassadors
Having a passion for the glory of God and a compassion for the lost

Our Members:

Rodger, Tricia & Ben Barton

Dwayne, Natalie, Meryt & Luke Benson

Steven, Jill, Anderson, Isaiah, Lowndes & Nolan Bloodworth

Robert, Rebecca, Mia & Jack Bowers

Our Ministries:

Our Seniors; they would be filled with the joy of the Lord; they would be healthy and strong; they would continue to bear fruit for the Kingdom. Our church leaders would have vision, wisdom & Christlikeness.

Our Missionary of the Month:

Jeff & Jamie Garrett, who are church planters and teachers in South Asia; pray for the huge country of India and the masses of people there that are still living in darkness. The effects of not having the gospel of Light shows in every aspect of society; please pray for His light to shine on this country and cast out the darkness. Pray for the Gospel to take hold of all areas of life there.

Pray that God would raise up 1% of our congregation to be missionaries.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Matt. 9:37).